

REMARKS

Claims 19-30 are pending in the application and have been rejected. Claim 19 has been canceled and Claim 31 has been added. All claims previously depending from Claim 19 have now been amended to depend from Claim 31.

Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 20-31 in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Examiner's Interview Summary

A telephone interview was held on April 7, 2008, between Examiner Levi and L. Rhys Lawson, applicants' attorney. A proposed amendment to Claim 19 was transmitted to the Examiner prior to the interview. The Examiner indicated that the proposed amendment would require additional searching and thus would not be admitted because the current rejection of all claims has been made final. The Examiner suggested that a request for continued examination be filed to expedite the prosecution and that the proposed claim should be further amended to clarify the relationship between the parts in the device of the invention.

The Rejection of Claims 19-30 Under U.S.C. § 102(b)

The rejection of Claims 19-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Porter (U.S. Patent No. 5,808,866) is respectfully traversed. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested for the following reasons.

Claim 19 has been cancelled and Claim 31 has been added. Claims 20-30 depend from Claim 31. Claim 31 recites a measuring device comprising a front side of the device, a rear side of the device, and an interior of the device, where the front side of the device includes an information-output device and a recess providing access to the interior of the device. Plug-in measuring device modules are inserted through the rear side of the measuring device and connected to the information-output device via a plug-and-socket panel. The plug-in measuring

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device module has an electrical connection that projects through the recess on the front side of the device. The result is a measuring device where an electrical connection to a plug-in measuring device module is situated on the same face of the device as an information-output device. Support for Claim 31 can be found throughout the application as published, and particularly paragraphs 42, 43, and 45.

In applicants' invention as now clarified in independent Claim 31, the front side of the measuring device is defined by the position of the information-output device fixed on it. The measuring device modules are to be inserted *from the rear side*, while the recess to make accessible an electrical connection to the plugged-in measuring-device modules is provided *in the front side*. Thus, the plug-in measuring device module insertion side and the electrical connection access sides are *opposite* according to Claim 1.

In U.S. Patent No. 5,808,866 (Porter), the information-output device is not fixed on or not a (fixed) part of the measuring device (Porter, page 13, lines 41-46). Thus, the definition of the front side is not given by the position or orientation of the information-output device. The control and connection ports 32 are located *exclusively on the same side* as the electronic modules 31 are to be inserted in from. This side is defined as the front side (Porter, page 13, lines 30-41). Thus, the insertion side of the electrical contact access side are the *same* in Porter. Contrary, in the patent application, the insertion side for the measuring-device modules is defined as the rear side, while in Porter, the insertion side is defined as the front side.

Because of the fact that the electrical contacts in Porter are only located on the insertion side of the modules, while at least one is located on the opposite of the insertion side in the patent application, Porter does not disclose the assembly of the patent application. The arrangement of the present invention shows a significant improvement for the use of the measuring device. As described in the application as published at paragraph 12: "This offers the

advantage that, for example, if the device under test is changed, a measuring line can be replaced without having to rotate the measuring device in order to gain access to the rear." The invention allows changing electrical connections with a DUT, for example, on the front side opposing the insertion side of the measuring device, which simplifies its handling by also making it more comfortable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and foregoing remarks, applicants believe that Claims 20-31 are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain that may be expeditiously addressed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' attorney at 206.695.1698.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rhys L', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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